

prevailed by violence to the exclusion of voters at will, and controlled means and resources for the most pernicious and daring frauds. It is beyond all question, that such wrongs were perpetrated on that election day, as have no parallel in the election annals of our country, but in Baltimore itself; and this too, under the official assurance of municipal power, and of a police organization, and a plan of operations adequate to the emergency. Such a result has abundantly justified the movement I deemed it proper to make, and proves that the execution of the laws for the maintainance of civil and political rights, has been violently resisted and stayed, while the Executive authority has been powerless to enforce it.

This is anarchy; and the issue of such a condition of things under our system of government is political confusion. The formal power it creates is an essential tyranny. It sways a spurious sceptre, over a people despoiled of their rights, and its career must be in profligate antagonism with law, order, and good government.

Such is the outline of a political era, and its disgraceful character, in the history of Maryland. A narrative of events transpiring in the city of Baltimore, the commercial metropolis of our State; and in the midst of a community graced by high culture, religion, morality, social refinement, and all the excellencies and elegancies of civilization.

Before I leave this branch of the subject I would take occasion to remark, that under a sense of duty not left to my discretion, I have issued Commissions to all those persons who appear by the certified official returns from the city of Baltimore, to have been elected to the various offices. At the same time I record my deliberate opinion that the election was fraudently conducted; that in the exclusion of thousands of people from the polls, there has been no expression of the popular will; and that the whole of the returns from that city are vicious, without a decent claim to official recognition any where, and in all their character, a gross insult to our institutions and laws, and a most offensive mockery of the great principles of political independence and popular suffrage.

Justice to myself, as the chief executive officer of the State, will not merely allow, but demand, a brief review of the animadversion, to which I have been exposed, for the purpose of correcting baseless errors, seduously diffused by the press, and thrown broad cast over the land.

Prominent among these and most flagrant was the assertion that the Governor of Maryland had "DECLARED MARTIAL LAW IN THE CITY OF BALTIMORE." That a statement so absurd, should have been made at all, is almost unaccountable. But that it should have found currency with any intelligent portion of the press is inexplicable. I learned that the original statement was dispatched from Baltimore by Telegraph, and this